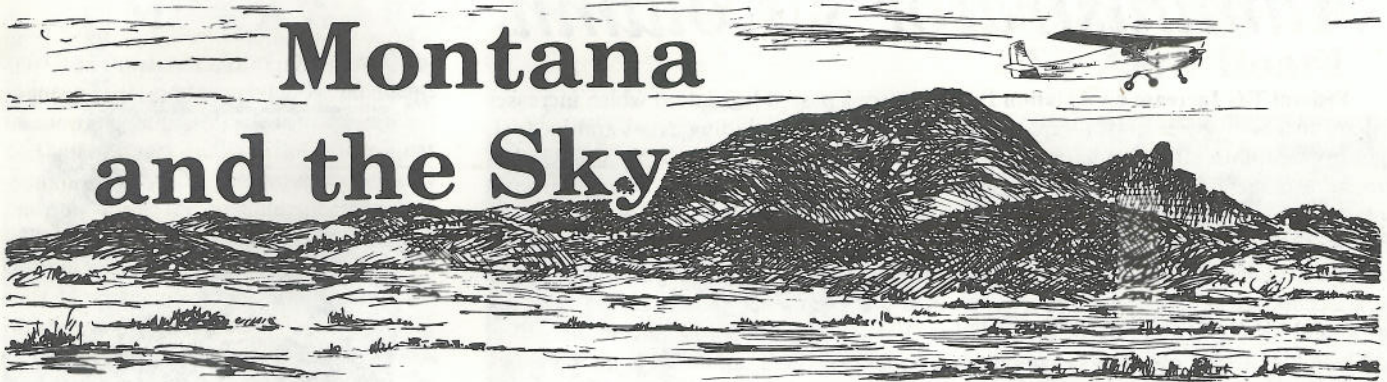


# Montana and the Sky



Vol. 38, No. 3

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

March 1987

## THIRD MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS



Radio controlled models belonging to the Bitterroot Radio Control Club "flew" through the atrium at the Sheraton during the Montana Aviation Conference. The display was arranged by Lefty Schwartz, Missoula. More Conference pictures are inside.

## AIRPORT SEMINAR OFFERED

**By: Dave Kneedler, Chief  
Airport/Airways Bureau**

The safe and timely development of any public use airport depends upon the support of the local community. In addition, responsible and effective management of finances and facilities is essential in achieving that public confidence and support.

State and local officials are playing an ever increasing role in airport planning, operations, and development forced by reduced federal involvement. Public officials who understand the changing airport marketplace will be able to improve and

preserve service to their constituents. Those who do not will lose out in the ongoing competition for air transportation.

Accordingly, the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) and its member state agencies are providing a series of airport seminars to assist these public officials in the fulfillment of their obligations to effectively manage and protect their airport resources.

The theme of these seminars is "How to Assure the Future of Your Airport." They are specifically designed for public officials whose responsibilities include, but are not

necessarily limited to, local airport administration. Topics to be covered include the full spectrum of airport related issues including how to work with state and federal agencies, how to maintain the facilities and services as expected, how to secure public good will, maintenance scheduling, airport safety, and master planning, to name a few. Although the State of Montana is not a sponsoring agent for the seminar, we feel that the lecture material is very worthwhile and strongly encourage the attendance of all who can benefit from the course's content.

Elsewhere in this issue of Montana and the Sky we have reprinted a portion of the promotional brochure for this series which will provide additional detail for your use. Seminar registration and hotel reservations can be made by contacting NASAO, Center for Aviation Research and Education, 777 14th Street, N.W., Suite 717, Washington, D.C. 20005, phone 202-783-0588.

The Montana Aeronautics Division also has a supply of the promotional brochures and will be happy to forward them upon request. Call 444-2506 in Helena.

## Lewistown NDB Faces Decommission

Notice has been received from the FAA concerning the decommissioning of the Lewistown, Montana, NDB.

If you have concerns about the Lewistown VFR only NDB, please send your comments to the Montana Aeronautics Division, Box 5178, Helena, Montana 59604 immediately. They will be forwarded to the FAA in Seattle.



# Administrator's Column

**Federal Tax Increase on Aviation Fuel.** Congress passed legislation which increases federal fuel taxes by 1/10 of a cent per gallon on all fuel, including avgas and jet fuel. This tax went into effect January 1, 1987, and is to be placed into the "Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund" to be used for emergency clean-up of underground tank leaks when there is no known owner or operator or when the clean-up costs exceed the owner/operator's financial ability to pay for such clean-up. The 1/10 of a cent per gallon will be included in the price of fuel by the manufacturer. For avgas, this will now be 9.1 cents per gallon manufacturer's tax plus the 3 cents per gallon federal retail tax for a total federal tax of 12.1 cents per gallon. For jet fuel, the 1/10 of a cent per gallon will be added to the present 14 cents per gallon federal retail tax (there is no manufacturer's tax on jet fuel) for a total of 14.1 cents per gallon federal tax. There are, of course, some existing exemptions and partial exemptions to these taxes, such as certain air taxis, state and local governments, non-profit educational institutions, the U.S. Department of Defense, etc.

\* \* \*

**Aviation Users Trust Fund Grows.** The U.S. Treasury Department reported recently that the trust fund is near \$9 billion and that over \$5 billion is now uncommitted. Congressman Mineta, chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee, has introduced H.R. 8 which, if passed, will remove the aviation trust fund from the unified budget. This, in my opinion, is **absolutely a must** if we are ever to see our user fees being totally used for their intended purposes. It is absurd that these trust fund balances even exist and even more absurd that they are being held hostage to help balance the national deficit instead of being used to improve our country's airport and airways systems.

\* \* \*

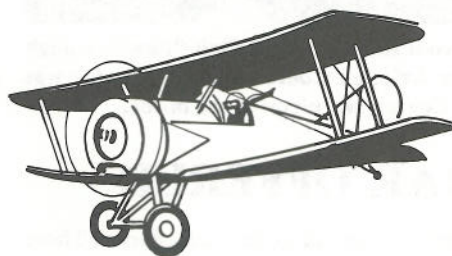
**Voyager Flight Being Discredited.** I was astounded and disgusted to read where certain factions are attempting to downgrade the stature of the Rutan/Yeager non-stop flight around the world without refueling to something less than the unparalleled aviation world record setting supreme achievement that it was. I only wish I could have contributed some of my time toward their program. Of course, I am envious and would much rather have been on the flight. I am, however, very proud to be able to say that I did contribute in a small way and am a member of the Voyager's VIP club. I humbly congratulate Dick and Jeana as well as the entire Voyager staff and volunteers whose endless devotion resulted in the success of this great historical aviation achievement. I do understand, at least to some small degree, what you all must have gone through. I SALUTE YOU!



## Trades Elects Officers

New officers of the Montana Aviation Trades Association, elected at a general meeting in Missoula during the Montana Aviation conference, include: Mike Biggerstaff, Stanford, president; Martin Elshire, Billings, vice president; and John Stene, Polson, secretary-treasurer.

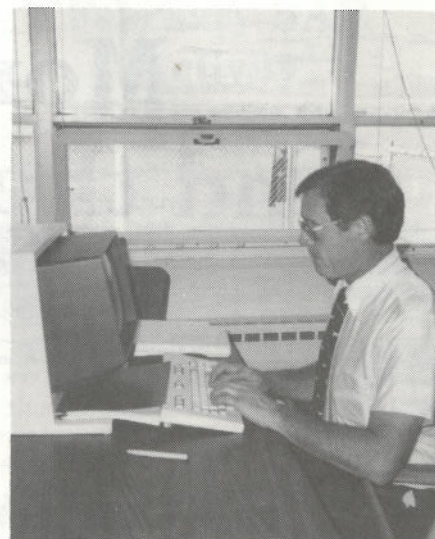
John Semple, Helena, serves as executive secretary for the group and is their representative at the National Agricultural Aviation Association.



## Albright to Chair 99s

At a meeting held at the Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula, the Montana 99s elected Dorothy Albright, Roundup, as their new state chairman.

The group plans to present a Flying Companion Seminar in Kalispell in May. Fay Smith, Kalispell, is coordinating the event there. For more information, call Fay at 755-9225.



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Ted Schwinden, Governor  
Keith Colbo, Director

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Michael D. Ferguson  
Administrator

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Theodore E. Mathis, Member  
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## MPA AWARDS ANNOUNCED

MPA President John Dove has announced that, inasmuch as the recipients of the 1986 MPA awards for Senior Pilot of the Year and Junior Pilot of the Year were not able to be present at the awards banquet during the Aviation Conference in Missoula, the awards will be formally presented at a later date.

Recipient of the 1986 Senior Pilot of the Year is Merrill E. Percy, Sr.

Percy turned 70 on February 5, 1987, and still serves as test pilot for all of the aircraft that are overhauled, rebuilt, and tested in any way for airworthiness at Percy Aviation of Miles City. He also puts in a full day's work every day rebuilding Supercubs. He does expert work in rebuilding wings, ailerons, and recovering fabric.

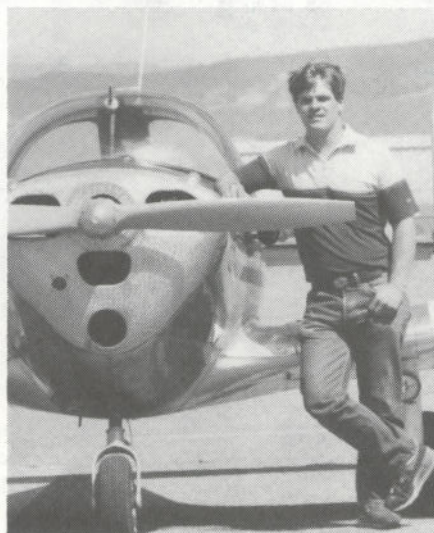
In emergencies, Percy has flown the injured to hospitals and delivered livestock medicine to ranchers. He also flies to locate livestock missing after storms.

Percy has over 5,000 hours flying time. He still takes the time from his own interests to fly with students and to teach them about the proper care of aircraft and the avoidance of emergency situations.

The 1986 Junior Pilot of the Year is Ken Wilhelm, Helena.

Wilhelm graduated from Capital High School in 1985. During his senior year in high school, he was involved with the VICA program, specializing in auto mechanics, and competed at the national level in Phoenix.

As a junior, Wilhelm joined the National Guard and completed basic training. After graduation he attended the Guard helicopter maintenance training in Fort



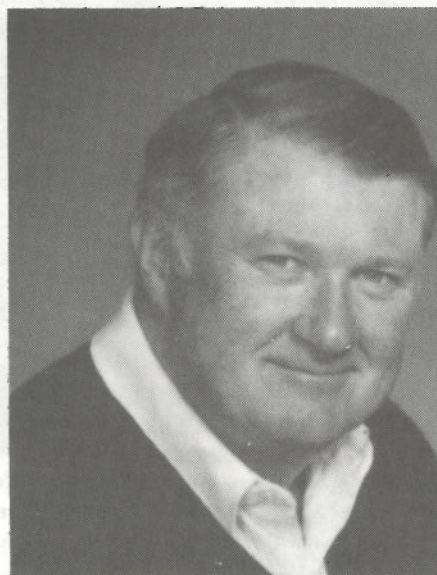
**Kenneth Wilhelm**

Rucker, Alabama. After completion of this training, he enrolled in the Helena Vo-Tech Airframe and Powerplant program in Helena. He is currently in the third phase and plans to graduate in July of this year.

Wilhelm started flying in 1984 in an Er-coupe his family had purchased the year before. He soloed in May of that year and has currently over 130 hours of flying time. One of his major cross country trips included a sprint in the Er-coupe to the EAA convention in Oshkosh and back.

After graduation from Vo-Tech, Ken plans to seek a mechanic position with a major aviation firm or airline.

## Cochrane Appointed To Aero Board



The Governor's office has recently announced that Albert C. Cochrane, Jr. of Bigfork has been appointed to fill the at-large position on the Montana Aeronautics Board.

Cochrane was born in New Haven, Conn., and attended schools in Massachusetts and Michigan before the family moved to Billings. He graduated from Billings Senior High. He received a B.A. degree in journalism from the University of Montana.

Entering the U.S Air Force as a second lieutenant, Cochrane graduated from B-26 navigator/bombardier training in 1953. He served as squadron navigator, flying worldwide troop carrier missions in the C-124 Globemaster. He accumulated 4,000 hours plus combat time in Vietnam.

Cochrane entered the public information field in 1959 and served as public information officer for the next 20 years in New Mexico, Colorado, Montana, South Vietnam, and Europe. He retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1979 and moved to Bigfork.

Cochrane's family includes his wife Garen and four sons. He is vice chairman of Bigfork School Board, a member of the Flathead Cherry Growers, and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

The Division welcomes Al Cochrane to the Board and looks forward to working with him.



**Merrill E. Percy, Sr.**

## CALENDAR

**March 23 - 26** - Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium, Bismarck, North Dakota. Sponsored by the North Dakota Aviation Council. For more information call Jerry Olson at 701-774-8594.

**May 11 - 15** - Crash/Fire/Rescue School, Great Falls.

**June 15 - July 3** - Aerospace Teacher Workshops.

**July 17 - 19** - Schafer Meadows Work Session.

**July 24 - 26** - Comprehensive Safety Program/Fly-In, West Yellowstone. More information to follow.

**July 31 - Aug. 7** - EAA Convention and Fly-In, Oshkosh, Wisc.

**Sept. 18 - 20** - Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

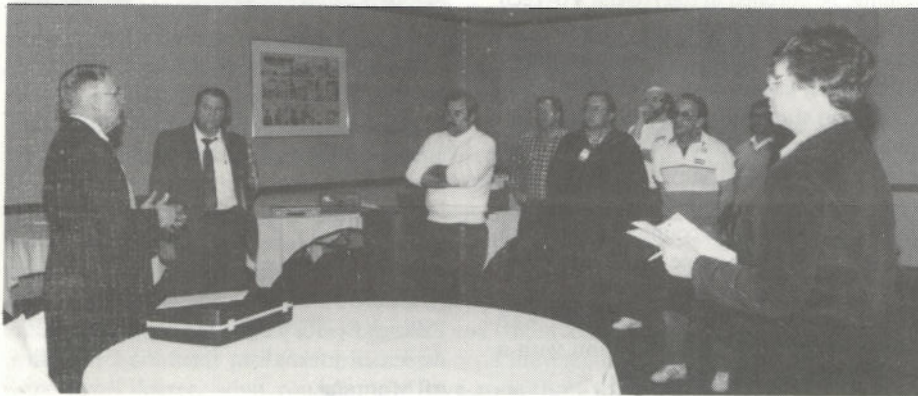


# MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE IN PICTURES

(We got so many good shots at the Conference that we couldn't get them all in this issue. Below and on the next two pages are some of them — we'll publish more in the April issue.)



"Flight Commanders" for this year's Conference were Russ Pankey (left), MAMA, and John Dove, MPA. The Conference, co-sponsored by the Montana Aeronautics Division, drew 525 participants, exhibitors and speakers.



John Dove and Russ Pankey welcome exhibitors at a short, informal meeting.



Governor Schwinden officially kicks off the Conference at the luncheon on Thursday. Seated with him at the head table are (from left) John Dove, co-chairman; Ted Mathis, Aeronautics Board chairman; Keith Colbo, director, Department of Commerce; Quentin Taylor, FAA; Zane Sullivan, chairman, Missoula County Airport Authority; Mayor Robert Lovegrove; Barbara Evans, Missoula County Commission; and Rev. Ron Moore. Russ Pankey (not shown) was master of ceremonies and the other co-chairman.



Keith Colbo, director of the Department of Commerce, addresses the Conference during the kick-off luncheon, and his tale of "one of those days" draws a chuckle from Governor Schwinden.



The featured speaker for the Thursday kick-off luncheon was Quentin Taylor, deputy administrator for airports, FAA, Washington, D.C. Here he is presented with a box of Montana huckleberry chocolates by Russ Pankey.



Carol Rayburn (left), manager, General Aviation and Commercial Division, FAA, and Mary Silitch, executive director of the Seaplane Pilots Association, look over the program after lunch.





A part of the registration crew poses for the cameraman. They are (from left): Faith Whalen, Terrie Bodenhamer, Janie Richardson, and Yvonne Moody. The other two were Cathy Hoyrup and Ruth Anderson — they'll show up elsewhere.



Ray Costello (left), regional representative for AOPA, and Jim Burnett field questions on national legislation.



Zane Sullivan, chairman of the Missoula County Airport Authority, welcomes participants at the kick-off luncheon.



Former chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Dan Todd (right), Pray, visits during lunch with Greg Isbill, Isbill and Associates.



Paul Burket, administrator of Oregon Aeronautics, conducts a concurrent session on Loran C approaches.



Addressing the Friday luncheon was Jim Burnett, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.



The gals in the Northwest booth discuss schedules with a potential customer.





Two of the 37 booth exhibitors who participated in the Conference.



Outgoing MAMA President Ted Mathis is presented a gift in appreciation by Russ Pankey, newly elected president.



Lt. Col. Joseph Pate, Scott AFB, Ill., explained the national search and rescue plan during concurrent sessions.



The IA Revalidation Team of the FAA from Oklahoma City presented a seminar to a room full of interested mechanics.

## FAA Issues Certificates

### PRIVATE

Carl Heintz.....Columbia Falls  
Walter Smith.....Butte  
Michael Halladay.....Great Falls  
Scott Baker.....Manhattan  
Michael Yost.....Helena  
Trent Thompson.....Forsyth  
Lisa Melcher.....Havre  
Pamela Scribner.....Geraldine  
Robert Van Riper.....Havre  
Jay Nance.....Birney  
Monte Belgarde.....Rocker  
Robert Becker.....Butte  
Brenda Egge.....Roundup  
Gene Huntley.....Baker  
David Gellner.....Billings  
Michael Oliver.....Billings  
Darrel Pilkington.....Busby  
Leigh Williamson.....Billings  
Gary Reeves.....Kalispell  
Scott Gliko.....Belt  
Gyme Scribner.....Geraldine  
Raymond Raulston.....Great Falls  
Byron Doherty.....Great Falls  
Howard Hough.....Billings  
Paul Gordon.....Helena  
David Miller.....Harlowton  
Thomas Streit.....Fort Benton  
Paul Mogan.....Circle

### COMMERCIAL

Rodney Kelly.....Ismay  
William Woodhouse.....Power  
Timothy Welch.....Harlem  
David Villa.....East Helena

### INSTRUMENT

David Appelgren.....Great Falls  
Charles Jones.....Helena  
Daniel Roda.....Great Falls  
Christina Pomeroy.....Livingston  
Stephen Cashel.....Billings

### MULTI-ENGINE

Robert Dillon.....Red Lodge  
(Instrument)

Dean Jensen.....Hinsdale

### ATP

Gerhart Blain.....Billings  
(Multi-Engine)

Roger Croghan.....Great Falls

### INSTRUCTOR

John Lutz.....Butte  
(Advanced Ground)

Jerry Simpson.....Helena  
(Multi-Engine)

John Lutz.....Butte  
Harry Andersen.....Lolo

(Continued on Page 8)



# HOW TO ASSURE THE FUTURE OF YOUR AIRPORT

## An Innovative Seminar for Public Officials

State and local officials are playing an ever-increasing role in airport planning, operations and development forced by reduced federal involvement. Public officials who understand the changing airport marketplace will be able to preserve and improve service to their constituents; those who do not will lose out in the ongoing competition for air transportation.

This program looks candidly at responsibilities of appointed and elected officials for airports in their respective jurisdictions. It presents methods and procedures for planning, budgeting and implementing airport improvements. It offers guidance for establishing safety programs and managing risk; provides organization and management techniques for facility maintenance; addresses the complex relationship between owner and tenants, including discussions dealing with leasing and renting. Additionally, the course outlines procedures to determine the true value of an airport to a community, and presents techniques for gaining public support.

### *key benefits*

This is a comprehensive educational program of airport administration and maintenance in its second year of national presentation. It provides answers to your most important questions as an airport administrator.

#### Get Answers to Your HOW TO Questions:

HOW TO work with state and federal agencies?  
HOW TO get the most value out of the airport?  
HOW TO maintain the facilities?  
HOW TO maintain service and safety?  
HOW TO maintain public good will?

#### Get Answers to Your WHY Questions:

WHY is maintenance important?  
WHY have an aviation services facility?  
WHY is the airport important?  
WHY should taxpayers have to support it?

#### Get Answers to Your HOW MUCH Questions:

HOW MUCH should maintenance cost?  
HOW MUCH help can we get from the state and from the Federal Aviation Administration?  
HOW MUCH revenue can we get from the airport?  
HOW MUCH should it cost to run the airport?  
HOW MUCH do I need to be involved?

### *day one*

8:00 Registration. Continental Breakfast.  
8:30 Introductions and Course Overview.  
9:00 Support Agencies - Where to turn for help.  
9:30 Owner Responsibilities - The buck stops here.  
10:00 Coffee and Discussions.  
10:30 Organizing the Airport Team - Distributing work.  
11:00 The Master Plan - Important facilities planning.  
11:30 Operations Planning - Things they don't tell you.  
12:00 Lunch  
1:00 Facilities Management - New Scientific ways to keep an airport safe and serviceable.  
1:30 Maintenance - How to save money by spending money. Techniques and case histories.  
2:00 Capital Improvements - Maintenance can't keep it together forever. What then?  
2:30 Soft Drinks and Discussions.  
3:00 Safety, Liability and Emergency Response.  
3:30 Airport Environment - Noise, risk and airspace.  
4:00 Airport Services - Responding to need.  
4:30 Hospitality and Refreshments.

### *day two*

7:30 Continental Breakfast.  
8:00 Leasing - Minimum standards and the FBO.  
8:30 Budgeting and Financial Accounting.  
9:30 Value of an Airport - Asset or liability.  
10:00 Coffee and Discussions.  
10:30 Economic Impact in Your Community.  
11:00 Gaining Community Support.  
11:30 Grants-In-Aid. Where to go; how to get them.  
12:00 Lunch  
1:00 Special Topics and Current Issues.  
1:30 Review and Critique.  
2:00 Adjourn.



## TCA UPDATE

By: Fred Hasskamp, Chief  
Safety and Education Bureau

In the February issue of Montana and the Sky, we talked about the requirements for flight in Terminal Control Areas (TCAs).

It has just been announced by the FAA that **transponders with Mode C** (altitude reporting) will be required for flight in ALL Group II TCAs as of December 1, 1987. The Group II TCAs are located at Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Kansas City, Houston, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Seattle, St. Louis, and San Diego.

The Mode C transponder is mandatory equipment in the nine Group I TCAs: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

## Certificates - Continued . . .

Henry Alme.....Cut Bank  
Donald Wolfe.....Chester  
Bradley Thompson.....Bozeman  
Sheri Coin.....Billings  
(Instrument)

### RENEW/REINSTATE INSTRUCTOR

Joseph Scott.....Great Falls  
Stanley Colton.....Denton  
Philip Brod.....Great Falls  
Dale Sanford.....Laurel  
Donald Paul.....Clancy  
Charles Trower.....Scobey  
Roger Croghan.....Great Falls  
James Prescott.....Billings

Use 122.9 MHz at White Sulphur Springs to activate the runway lights. Three, five, or seven microphone clicks will turn on different parts of the lights, VASIs for fifteen minutes.

## February SAR Activity

By: Fred Hasskamp, Chief  
Safety and Education Bureau

Three ALNOTS (alert notices) were received on aircraft - all of which were for flight plans that were not closed. Fortunately, all three were found safe at their respective destinations: Williston, Kalispell, and Salt Lake City.

Three ELT reports were received. One was located in a helicopter at the Helena Airport, one in an aircraft at Kalispell, and one in southeastern Montana went off the air before it could be located.

2,500 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.29 per copy for a total cost of \$718.40, which includes \$543.40 for printing and \$175 for distribution.

### MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

PURPOSE—"To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in research, development, and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states."



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